

REMARKS

Claims 1-18 were pending in the patent application. By this amendment, Applicants cancel dependent Claims 2, 8 and 14 and add new dependent Claims 19, 20 and 21. No additional filing fee is required.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 13-18 under 35 USC 112 as not supported by the Specification. Applicants respectfully assert that the original Claims 13 and 14 described the program storage device for implementing the inventive method. One having skill in the relevant art would have understood that the inventors were in possession of the claimed invention at the time of application filing and would fully understand how to implement the program storage device from the description. By a previous amendment, Applicants amended the Specification to include a description of the program storage device on page 4. Applicants again amend the Specification on page 2. The amendment language finds support in the original Claims 13-14. Applicants reiterate that the language of the original claims 13 and 14 was sufficient to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventors had possession of the claimed invention at the time the application was filed, in accordance with 35 USC 112, first

paragraph. Applicants request reconsideration of the rejection of the claims directed to the program storage device for storing a program of instructions executable by a computer for implementing the inventive method.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-18 under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by Sinai. For the reasons set forth below, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the pending claims are definite and patentable over the cited prior art.

The present application teaches and claims a system for a user to input commands to generate a voice XML file, including directing how the audio content is to be delivered and inserting hyperlinks to linkable audio content. The system includes a graphic user interface for defining a plurality of first and second icons, wherein each of the first icons corresponds to one or more attributes of a voice XML and at least one second icon corresponds to a hyperlink to a linkable voice XML file. The system further includes a voice XML tag generator for interpreting the action stream of a user based on a library of voice XML tags and generating the corresponding voice XML tags and a voice XML file generator 103 for combining the contents to be played with the tags generated by the voice XML tag generator according to voice XML syntax for

creating the voice XML file including hyperlinks to XML voice files. Under the present invention, the user is dynamically creating a voice file for which a listener can provide hyperlink input to automatically invoke rendering of audio content from the linked XML voice file.

The independent claims of the application have been amended to more clearly recite that the user is selecting icons for an existing content stream (page 6, lines 10-15), that first and second icons can be selected (page 5, lines 25-31), that icons are selected to add hyperlinks (page 4, line 9 and page 8, lines 5-19 and in Fig. 7) and that a voice XML is generated with both tags and hyperlinks where, upon listener hyperlink input to the generated voice XML file, audio accessed through said hyperlink is automatically delivered to the listener (page 4, lines 20-26 and page 8, lines 10-12).

Dependent Claims 2, 8 and 14 have been canceled. Accordingly, the dependency of several corresponding claims (Claims 3 and 4 which previously depended from Claim 2; Claims 9 and 10 which previously depended from Claim 8; and Claims 15 and 16 which previously depended from Claim 14) have been changed to appropriately depend from the amended independent claims. The language of those claims has also been amended to correspond with the amended language of the

independent claims from which they depend and upon which they rely for antecedent basis. Further, Claims 19-21 have been added to expressly recite the provision of the <bargain+true> prompt to allow a listener to interrupt display of the generated voice XML file in order to invoke a hyperlink for display of a linkable voice XML file (page 6, line 28 and page 7, line 9). No new matter is added by any of the claim amendments.

The Examiner has cited the Sinai patent as anticipating all of Claims 1-18. The Sinai patent is directed to a system and method for a developer to create an audio dialog file with which a user can interact. The developer graphically defines a dialog flow comprising a sequence of speech objects in order to "pre-record" voice files that can be played to a user in a voice response system. The developer selects and drags speech objects from a speech object palette and drops them into a display grid (col. 9, lines 18-23). The developer places the speech objects in the grid in a preferred order that corresponds to the voice response interaction that is being developed. A VXML writer generates VXML representing the current state of grid and stores the dialog flow (Col. 10, lines 57-62). The VXML is simply a concatenation of the pre-recorded speech corresponding to the selected speech

objects. The created dialog flow may be used in conjunction with speech recognition software to conduct an interactive dialog with a user, by prompting input from the user, interpreting user responses, and then selecting the appropriate next response in the dialog flow based on the user response.

Applicants acknowledge that Sinai teaches a tool for graphically defining a dialog flow. However, Applicants disagree with the Examiner's conclusion that Sinai's system and method for graphically defining a dialog flow anticipates the invention as claimed. With specific reference to the claim language, the present application teaches and claims a system, method and program storage device for a computer network user to create a voice XML file from a TTS file or a read-time recorded audio file automatically. While the present invention dynamically creates XML tags and dynamically generates the XML file from user input, the Sinai system simply retrieves pre-recorded XML speech for selected speech objects.

As recited in each of the pending claims, the present invention provides a graphic user interface (GUI) for defining a plurality of first and second icons, each of said first icons corresponding to one or more attributes of voice XML with at least one second icon corresponding to a

hyperlink to a linkable voice XML file. Sinai simply provides speech objects in a palette for selection by a developer (Fig. 4).

The claimed invention receives user selection input of icons to edit a content stream displayed in the GUI to customize audio output of the content stream and to add one or more hyperlinks to one or more linkable voice XML files. Sinai simply allows the developer to select speech objects in a desired order to create a dialog flow.

The present invention records an action stream of a user invoking icons in the graphic user interface. Applicants acknowledge that the Sinai system continues to display the speech objects dragged and dropped onto the grid (Col. 10, lines 57-58), but maintains that Sinai does not expressly teach that the developer selection of speech objects is recorded. Under the Sinai teachings, the developer selects the speech objects and the "drag-and-drop interpreter 122 receives the drag-and-drop-type user inputs directed to the toolbox 121 and the grid 123" (Col. 10, lines 55-57. What Sinai describes is standard GUI input processing, which is not the same as or suggestive of recording an action stream

With respect to the claim feature of steps and means for interpreting the action stream based on a library of

voice XML tags and generating voice XML tags for the content, Applicants respectfully assert that the Sinai patent does not teach recording an action stream and does not teach interpreting the action stream to generate voice XML tags. Applicants reiterate that the Sinai system simply retrieves pre-recorded information for selected speech objects. Sinai does not dynamically generate XML tags base on user's input interpreted from an action stream.

With respect to the claim feature of steps and means for generating a voice XML file by combining the generated voice XML tags and the content stream including at least one hyperlink to a linkable voice XML file, Applicants contend that Sinai simply concatenates pre-recorded information associated with the selected speech objects. Sinai does not dynamically generate a voice XML file by combining newly generated XML tags with a content stream. Moreover, Sinai does not teach or suggest incorporating a hyperlink in a rendered voice XML file. While Sinai does teach that, during running of a developed dialog, a user's input may be used to access a Web page to return a stock quote or the like (Col. 11, lines 40-42), that is not the same as or suggestive of incorporating selectable hyperlinks into a dynamically generated voice XML file.

As recited in the claims as amended, the voice XML file generated by the present invention includes at least one hyperlink whereby, upon receipt of listener hyperlink input to the generated voice XML file, audio accessed through said hyperlink is automatically delivered to the listener. Sinai teaches no such hyperlink.

Applicants respectfully contend that Sinai is not teaching or suggesting such a graphical user interface component or functionality as claimed. Further, there is nothing in the Sinai patent which teaches or suggests the steps and means for automatically adding one or more audio hyperlinks for a voice file (Claims 3-6, 9-12 and 15-18). Moreover, there is nothing in the Sinai patent which teaches or suggests inclusion of an XML tag for allowing a user to "barge in" to interrupt a rendered audio stream to invoke an audio hyperlink for automatic retrieval and delivery of a linkable voice XML file.

For a patent to anticipate another invention under 35 USC § 102(e), the patent must clearly teach each and every claimed feature of the anticipated invention. Since the Sinai patent clearly does not teach the features of the system, method or program storage device as claimed, namely the steps and means for providing a graphic user interface for defining a plurality of first and second icons;

receiving user selection input of the icons to edit GUI-displayed content and add at least one hyperlink thereto; recording an action stream of a user invoking the icons in the graphic user interface; and interpreting the action stream to dynamically create a user voice XML file with at least one hyperlink, it cannot be maintained that the Sinai patent anticipates each and every claim feature of the independent claims, Claims 1, 7 and 13, or of the remaining claims which depend therefrom and add further limitations thereto.

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 112 rejections, reconsideration and withdrawal of the 102 rejections based on Sinai, and issuance of the claims.

Respectfully submitted,
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